

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 HA-05 EB-08 H-01 MCE-00
ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-02 AID-05 ACDA-12 PM-05
/070 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:FERONDON:JC
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN
D:SOXMAN (INFO)
HA:EOJONES (INFO)
EB/ITA/EWT/PBLAKEBURN (INFO)
H:DGELBER (INFO)
-----041904 301818Z /43
P 301715Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, MASS, MILI, SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: SALES TO ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES

1. DEPARTMENT HAS AUTHORIZED EXPORT OF PONTOON BRIDGES
AND RECOMMENDED TO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE APPROVAL OF BELL
COMMERCIAL HELICOPTERS. ALTHOUGH ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON HAS BEEN ADVISED OF ACTION, POST ALSO MAY WISH
TO ADVISE GOA OF U.S. ACTION ON THESE CASES, WHICH SERVE AS
EVIDENCE OF USG INTEREST IN A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH
ARGENTINA - ONE WHICH WE HOPE WILL EVOLVE FAVORABLY AS
HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IMPROVES.

2. ON DECEMBER 19, ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR APPEALED TO
ARA DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MCNEIL FOR PROMPT ACTION
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ON EXPORT OF PONTOON BRIDGES, HELICOPTERS AND NEPTUNE
AIRCRAFT.

3. ON DECEMBER 20, DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZED EXPORT OF ALMOST
\$3 MILLION IN ALUMINUM PONTOON BRIDGES. THESE ITEMS HAD
BEEN PURCHASED UNDER FMS AND PAID FOR IN FULL.

4. ON DECEMBER 27, SALE OF 8 COMMERCIALY CONFIGURED BELL HELICOPTERS TO AIR FORCE WAS APPROVED IN DEPARTMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HAS BEEN NOTIFIED. WE UNDERSTAND THESE HELICOPTERS WILL BE USED INTER ALIA FOR RESCUE PURPOSES, AND WE WERE INFORMED THAT ARGENTINA BECAME VERY CONCERNED ABOUT ITS DEFICIENCY IN HELICOPTERS DURING NOVEMBER EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS AS WELL AS AUSTRAL AIRLINES CRASH RESCUE OPERATIONS. FURTHERMORE, ARGENTINES AGREED TO DELETION OF ARMOR AND COLLINS KIT WHICH HAD PLACED HELICOPTERS PREVIOUSLY ON MUNITIONS LIST, AND ASSURED US THAT THE HELICOPTERS "WOULD BE USED FOR CUSTOMARY AIR FORCE PURPOSES."

5. DECISION ON NEPTUNE AIRCRAFT FOR CANNIBALIZING WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, ARMED FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 78
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 154026
Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: ESTC, MASS, MILI, SHUM, AR
To: BUENOS AIRES
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